From:	Katie Aragon
To:	Ohtaki, Peter I
Cc:	Sara Orton
Subject:	Re: Immigration reform sample resolution
Date:	Tuesday, April 18, 2017 1:01:25 PM

Hey Peter,

Great to hear from you! I actually relocated to our DC headquarters so I'm cc'ing in Sara, who heads up our organizing in Northern California now. Hopefully you two can grab coffee!

As to your question, this is a state resolution, but **Nevada passed one** a few years ago (I've included full text below).

The only piece it's missing that I think the Menlo Park City Council would be well-positioned to add is a piece about the importance of reforming the legal immigration system to cut down on improper use of H-1Bs while raising the H-1B cap, make it easier for foreign students educated in U.S. universities to remain here after graduation, and create a startup visa to spur innovation. Here is some language you could use for that piece:

- Highly-skilled immigrants create new American jobs, raise wages for native-born workers, and contribute enormously to growing our economy and Congress should expand the number of H-1B visas offered while reforming the system to protect American workers.
- Congress's failure to update our high-skilled immigration system over the past few decades have allowed too many low wage staffing companies to use the visa in an inappropriate manner.
- We also need to eliminate the green card backlog to help high-skilled immigrants further contribute and become citizens, and create a startup visa in order to make our country more competitive in the modern global economy.

And here is the language from Nevada's resolution:

WHEREAS, The United States is predominantly a nation of immigrants that draws strength from the diversity of its residents; and

WHEREAS, Hardworking persons who aspire to become citizens of the United States have contributed to the prosperity of the State of Nevada in extraordinary ways through the years; and

WHEREAS, The operation of a strong and vibrant democracy is likely to be impeded unless all men and women, regardless of their race, creed, color, ethnicity or birthplace, are able to participate meaningfully in the political process with full rights and the equal protection attendant thereto; and

WHEREAS, We believe in the human dignity of all residents of the United States, regardless of their immigration status, and recognize the importance of the many contributions that immigrants have made to the social and economic fabric of Nevada; and

WHEREAS, A comprehensive approach to fixing our broken immigration system would strengthen the economy of our State and our nation, and would free aspiring citizens to make even greater contributions to our communities, our State and our nation; and

WHEREAS, We support immigration reform that keeps families together, upholds our values as a nation, promotes economic growth and provides long-term solutions to the current problems resulting from our immigration system; and

WHEREAS, Comprehensive immigration reform must include a significant reduction in the often unreasonable wait times and arbitrary rules that keep families separated from their loved ones; and

WHEREAS, Comprehensive immigration reform must include a realistic pathway to citizenship for all hardworking and taxpaying aspiring citizens who live in this country and meet reasonable requirements; and

WHEREAS, Comprehensive immigration reform must provide a mechanism for aspiring citizens who have grown up in this country to become citizens and be better able to fully contribute to our joint future; and

WHEREAS, The reform of our nation's immigration system must occur in a thoughtful manner which builds the strength and unity of working people, and guarantees the same rights, obligations and basic fairness for all workers, no matter their country of birth or origin; and

WHEREAS, Comprehensive immigration reform must include a new temporary worker program that provides for strict compliance with the labor standards and wage and hour requirements of the United States, portability of work visas so that workers may change jobs and the ability of workers to petition for permanent residency; and

WHEREAS, The enforcement provisions which accompany comprehensive immigration reform must restore respect for the law by promoting strict adherence to our nation's values, including due process, civil and human rights, accountability and proportionality; and

WHEREAS, The focus of law enforcement, both within and at the borders of the United States, should be to prevent criminals, and those persons attempting to enter the country for the purpose of doing harm to this nation, from entering or remaining in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Comprehensive immigration reform must include a funding stream to address the entire spectrum of fiscal impacts that will be experienced by state governments as a result of programs for guest workers, earned legalization and increases in the number of immigrants; and

WHEREAS, Our federal elected officials must create an immigration process that strengthens our nation's economy and allows aspiring citizens to continue making contributions to our communities, our State and our nation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, JOINTLY, That the members of the 77th Session of the Nevada Legislature hereby urge Congress to enact comprehensive immigration reform as outlined in this resolution which addresses: (1) earned legal residency accompanied by a clear path to citizenship; (2) the future immigration of families and workers; (3) improved immigration enforcement and border security that is consistent with our nation's values; and (4) a funding stream to address the entire fiscal impacts on state governments; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare and transmit a copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Vice President of the United States as the presiding officer of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and each member of the Nevada Congressional Delegation; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon passage.

Katie Aragón
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Twitter | LinkedIn
Read about FWD.us' work to-date here!

San Francisco Chronicle | Tech leaders make immigration a moral issue, not an economic one - Joe Garofoli

On Tue, Apr 18, 2017 at 3:20 PM, Ohtaki, Peter I <PIOhtaki@menlopark.org> wrote:

> Hi Katie,
> Does your organization have a sample resolution that cities can use to call on Congess for comprehensive immigration reform?
> Thanks,
> Peter
>
> Peter Ohtaki
> Menlo Park Vice Mayor/City Councilmember
>
> Sent from my iPhone, so please forgive typos and blunt language.